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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
09/604,325	06/26/00	ZSEBO	K 01017/32953A

HM22/0813
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EXAMINER	
BUNNER, B	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
1647	4

DATE MAILED: 08/13/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/604,325	Applicant(s) ZSEBO ET AL.	
	Examiner Bridget E. Bunner	Art Unit 1647	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *1* MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *08 June 2001* .

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-70* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☒ Claim(s) *1-70* are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11)☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a)☐ approved b)☐ disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ .
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: .

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

I. Claims 1-12, 15, 28-30, 32-33, 40-41, 48-59, and 70 drawn to an isolated stem cell factor polypeptide, classified in class 530, subclass 350.

II. Claims 13-14, 16-27, 31, and 39, drawn to an isolated DNA sequence that encodes a stem cell factor polypeptide, classified in class 536, subclass 23.1.

III. Claims 34-38, 61-63, 66-69, drawn to methods of treatment of leucopenia, thrombocytopenia, anemia, AIDS, and neoplasia comprising administering stem cell factor polypeptide, classified in class 424, subclass 198.1.

IV. Claims 42-43, drawn to an antibody specifically binding stem cell factor, classified in class 530, subclass 387.1.

V. Claims 44-47, drawn to a process for the efficient recovery of stem cell factor from SCF containing material comprising subjecting the SCF containing material to ion exchange chromatography, classified in class 530, subclass 413.

VI. Claim 60, drawn to a method for preparing a biologically active polymer-polypeptide adduct, classified in class 435, subclass 4.

VII. Claim 64, drawn to a method of transfecting early hematopoietic progenitor cells with a gene, classified in class 514, subclass 44.

VIII. Claim 65, drawn to a method of transferring a gene to a mammal, classified in class 514, subclass 44.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

a. Although there are no provisions under the section for "Relationship of Inventions" in M.P.E.P. § 806.05 for inventive groups that are directed to <u>different</u> products, restriction is deemed to be proper because these products constitute patentably distinct inventions for the following reasons. Groups I-II and IV are directed to products that are distinct both physically and functionally, are not required one for the other, and are therefore patentably distinct. Further,

the protein of Group I can be prepared by processes which are materially different from recombinant DNA expression of Group II, such as by chemical synthesis, or by isolation and purification from natural sources. Additionally, the DNA of Group II can be used other than to make the protein of Group I, such in gene therapy or as a probe in nucleic acid hybridization assays. The protein of Group I can be used in materially different methods other than to make the antibody of Group IV, such as in therapeutic or diagnostic methods (e.g., in screening). Finally, although the antibody of Group IV can be used to obtain the DNA of Group II, it can also be used in materially different methods, such as in various diagnostic (e.g., as a probe in immunoassays or immunochromatography), or therapeutic methods.

b. Similarly, although there are no provisions under the section for "Relationship of Inventions" in M.P.E.P. § 806.05 for inventive groups that are directed to different methods, restriction is deemed to be proper because these methods constitute patentably distinct inventions for the following reasons. Inventions III and V-VIII are different methods because they require different ingredients, process steps, and endpoints. Groups III and V-VIII are different methods requiring different method steps, wherein each is not required, one for another. For example, invention III requires search and consideration of efficacy of treatment of numerous diseases or disorders by administration of an isolated stem cell factor (SCF) polypeptide, which is not required by the other inventions. Invention V requires search and consideration of subjecting material containing SCF to ion exchange chromatographic separation and recovery of SCF, which is not required by the other inventions. Invention VI requires search and consideration of incubation of a SCF polypeptide with a water soluble polymer, which is not required by the other inventions. Invention VII requires search and consideration of culturing hematopoietic progenitor cells with SCF and transfection of hematopoietic progenitor cells with a gene, which is not required by the other inventions. Invention VIII requires search and consideration of

administration of transfected hematopoietic progenitor cells to a mammal, which is not required by the other inventions.

c. Inventions I and III/VI/VII/VIII are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case, the product claimed can be used in materially different methods, such diagnostic assays or the production of antibodies.

d. Inventions I/II/IV and V are unrelated. Inventions are unrelated if it can be shown that they are not disclosed as capable of use together and they have different modes of operation, different functions, or different effects (MPEP § 806.04, MPEP § 808.01). In the instant case, the different inventions of Groups I/II/IV and V are unrelated products and method, wherein each is not required, one for another. For example, the isolated polypeptide, DNA, and antibody of Inventions I/II/IV cannot be used together with the claimed method of Inventions V because this invention does not recite the use or production of this polypeptide, DNA, and antibody.

e. Inventions II/IV and III, VI-VIII are unrelated. Inventions are unrelated if it can be shown that they are not disclosed as capable of use together and they have different modes of operation, different functions, or different effects (MPEP § 806.04, MPEP § 808.01). In the instant case, the different inventions of Groups II/IV and III, VI-VIII are unrelated products and methods, wherein each is not required, one for another. For example, the isolated DNA and antibody of Inventions II/IV cannot be used together with the claimed methods of Inventions III, VI-VIII because these inventions do not recite the use or production of the DNA and antibody.

2. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art because of their separate search requirements, different classification, and recognized divergent subject matter, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a petition under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Bridget E. Bunner whose telephone number is (703) 305-7148. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-5:30 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gary Kunz can be reached on (703) 308-4623. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 308-4242 for regular communications and (703) 308-4242 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

Elizabeth C. Kemmerer

BEB
Art Unit 1647
August 9, 2001

ELIZABETH KEMMERER
PRIMARY EXAMINER